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SENATE BILL 1143

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

MANNY M ARAGON

AN ACT

RELATING TO A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR;
AMENDING A SECTION OF THE NMSA 1978 TO CHANGE THE MANNER OF
FILLING A VACANCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 1-15-14 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969,
Chapter 240, Section 364) is amended to read:

"1-15-14. UNITED STATES SENATOR--VACANCY. --

A. Immediately upon there being a vacancy in the
office of United States senator, the ~~[governor]~~ New Mexico
senate, by simple resolution, shall make a temporary appointment
to fill the vacancy until such time as an election is held to
fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. In the event the
legislature is not in session and is not scheduled to convene a
session within thirty days of a vacancy, the governor shall make

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1 a temporary appointment to fill the vacancy. The governor's
2 appointee shall serve until a successor is elected or the
3 legislative session convenes, whichever occurs first.

4 B. The election to fill the vacancy for the
5 unexpired term shall be held at the next general election
6 occurring not less than thirty days subsequent to the happening
7 of such vacancy.

8 C. If the vacancy occurs within thirty days next
9 preceding a general election, the person appointed [~~by the~~
10 ~~governor~~] to fill the vacancy shall hold office until the next
11 general election occurring more than thirty days subsequent to
12 the happening of the vacancy unless the term of office of such
13 senator shall sooner expire.

14 D. Candidates to fill a vacancy in the office of
15 United States senator for an unexpired term shall be nominated
16 and elected in the same manner as candidates are nominated and
17 elected for the full term."